

**James Monroe to Thomas Jefferson, June 17,
1791, from Thomas Jefferson and James Monroe
Correspondence, Transcribed and Edited by Gerard W.
Gawalt, Manuscript Division, Library of Congress**

James Monroe to Thomas Jefferson

Richmond June 17. 1791.

Dear Sir

I have been favor'd with 2 letters from you since my arrival with Paine's pamphlet in one, & shod. have answer'd them sooner, but knew of yr. departure Eastward, & of course that it wou. not have been sooner red. By the 25th we shall be settled in Albemarle upon my plantation, the unfinish'd state of the buildings having prevented removal there sooner. The Appls. & Genl. court are siting. Their respective terms will not expire so as to enable me to get home by that time, but my own business will be finish'd, & I shall not stay longer.

Upon political subjects were perfectly agree, & particularly in the reprobation of all measures that may be calculated to elevate the government above the people, or plan it in any respect without it natural boundary. To keep it there nothing is necessary, but virtue in a part only (for in the whole it cannot be expected) of the high publick servants, & a true development of the principles of those arts wh. have a contrary tendency. The bulk of the people are for democracy, & if they are well inform'd the ruin of such enterprizes will in-

-fallibly follow. I shall however see you in Sepr. at wh. time we will confer more fully on these subjects.

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I have been associated in the room of Mr. Pendleton with the comsrs. For revising the laws of this State. The appointment was communicated to me yesterday by the executive, & as it was neither wish'd nor expected, I can give no information of the extent of the duty or the time it will take to execute it. Upon the hope of completing what is expected from us before the meeting of the next Congress I have accepted the appointment.

I am extremely anxious to procure rooms near you for the next session if such shod. be known to you wh. may be preingag'd to be occupied on the commencement of the session, shall thank you to contract for them in my behalf. I shall certainly be there at that time for having accepted this appointment I am resolv'd to pursue & not be diverted from it by any consideration whatever. Remember me to Mr. Madison. Mrs. M. was well when I left her.

With great respect & esteem I am affectionately yr. friend & servant Jas. Monroe

RC (Jefferson Papers, Library of Congress).